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Text:

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 00760

SIPDIS  
CXABU:

ACTION: AMB  
INFO: DCM MEPI POL ECON

DISSEMINATION: AMB  
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APPROVED: AMB:MJSISON  
DRAFTED: ECON:EWILLIAMS  
CLEARED: DCM:RALBRIGHT, ECON:OJOHN

VZCZCADI286  
PP RUEHC RUEHZM RUEHDE RUCPDO  
DE RUEHAD #0760 0471206  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 161206Z FEB 05  
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8245  
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 4842  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 000760

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB  
STATE FOR NEA, NEA/ARPI, NEA/PI  
STATE PASS USTR FOR DOUG BELL

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [ETRD](#) [ECON](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: UAE DESIGNATES LEAD NEGOTIATORS FOR FTA

REF: ABU DHABI 600

1. On February 15, Minister of State for Finance and Industry Dr. Mohammed Khalfan bin Kharbash chaired the first meeting of the UAE FTA negotiating committee. The committee, established by the UAE Cabinet on February 7 (reftel), assigned the lead negotiating responsibility for various sections of the US-UAE FTA to specific UAE ministries.

2. The following ministries and authorities will have lead negotiating responsibility for different FTA chapters:

- Legal Affairs; Ministry of Justice
- Services; Ministry of Economy and Planning
- Investment; Ministry of Finance and Industry
- Financial Services; Central Bank
- Financial Services (Insurance); Ministry of Economy and Planning
- Telecommunications/E-Commerce; Telecom Regulatory Authority
- Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures; Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Environment; Federal Environment Authority
- Government Procurement; Ministry of Finance and Industry
- Technical Barriers to Trade/Standards; Emirates Standardization and Metrology Authority (standards portion)
- Customs/Rules of Origin; Federal Customs Authority
- Market Access (Industrial and Agricultural); Federal Customs Authority
- Intellectual Property Rights; Ministry of Information and Culture
- Textiles; Ministry of Economy and Planning
- Labor; Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs

SISON